



***Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership-  
Community Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
June 15, 2009***

**Summary**

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**Community Advisory Board Members in Attendance (11):**

David Brehmeyer (Hualapai Health Department) (Phone)  
Elizabeth Castaneda-Jackson (Yuma County Meth Nucleus Group) (Phone)  
Claudia DalMolin (Gila County Sheriff's Office; Gila County Meth Coalition)  
Kathy Grimes (Graham County Anti-Meth Coalition) (Phone)  
Patricia Hibbeler (Urban Indian Coalition of AZ)  
Connie Leto (Coconino County Alliance Against Drugs)  
Tammany McDaniel (Arizona Youth Partnership) (Phone)  
Manuel Medina (C.O.P.E.)  
Duce Minor (Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment)  
Andrea Santa Cruz (Meth Free Alliance) (Phone)  
Mary Specio-Boyer (COPE Community Services, Inc.; Pima County Meth Free Alliance)  
Pastor Roy Tullgren (Pima County Community Prevention Coalition) (phone)

**Community Advisory Board Members Absent (2):**

Debe Campbell (Navajo County Drug Project)  
Sheriff Steve Tucker (Greenlee County Sheriff's Office)

**Public Members (6):**

Scott Fry (GOCYF-DSAP)  
Morgan Hester (GOCYF-DSAP)  
Briana Kreibich (GOCYF-DSAP)  
Cassandra Larsen (GOCYF)  
Phil Stevenson (ACJC) (Phone)  
Karen Ziegler (ACJC)

**Call to Order**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Duce Minor welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Members and members of the public introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

Pastor Roy Tullgren moved to accept the minutes and Ms. Patricia Hibbeler seconded the motion, which carried with no objection. No corrections or changes were suggested.

**Discussion- Prevention and Community Partnerships Strategic Focus Area**



Mr. Minor discussed the brainstorming that was done in the previous meeting and the summary document created by Ms. Morgan Hester for the discussion. Ms. Mary Specio-Boyer reviewed the input and feedback from the initial meeting and collapsed the seven initial brainstorming ideas into three recommendations: (1) The development of resources and information that is accessible; establish a web-based resource for information on effective preventative strategies. The website should serve as a repository of data as well as a location for community coalitions to exchange information. (2) The promotion of relationships and collaborations across groups and services including prevention, treatment and enforcement, and to implement a strategic approach to sustainability for community coalitions. Discussion of sustainability involves building long-term relationships as well as financial sustainability. (3) Providing technical assistance and references for education on grant-seeking/writing, and coalition development strategic planning.

The goal is to evaluate what has happened in the past with ASAP, what is currently occurring in ASAP and what should happen over time and provide policy recommendations. Possible areas for policy research and policy briefs leading to recommendations were: (1) Keg registration and social hosting ordinances, (2) Policy brief on reducing shifts in targeting of prevention activities to maintain gains (i.e. need a strategic plan for consistent long-term results in prevention efforts). (3) ASAP should develop a repository of information about federal projects and grants and communicate that information to the community.

Pastor Tullgren re-capped that the general goal of the CAB is improving and enhancing relationships between community partners, coalitions and the state and providing the community perspective on policy issues to ASAP (who is charged with advising on substance abuse policy in Arizona). Mr. Phil Stevenson (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission) suggested making access to data easier and making the data and information that is collected available to serve community coalitions directly. Part of that goal would be making the information straightforward as well as providing focused prevention targets. The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) is working on making crime-data available immediately to the public and is applying for a grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to increase the accessibility of their crime-data. Mr. Stevenson also suggested making substance abuse data and analysis available in a similar way that crime-data is available so that community members can directly access it.

There was discussion that the Epidemiology Work Group data is often just a compilation of other data sources and that an important goal should be to make the data understandable and accessible to a wide variety of people. The challenge is to continue to reach out, collect the data, present the data directly and update it regularly. Ms. Specio-Boyer pointed out that the Community Advisory Board might be able to collect local data and provide it to other groups. Pastor Tullgren mentioned that the goals and objectives of a number of different groups seem to be coming together and that there can be considerable overlap between the different work groups and communities. Ms. Karen Ziegler said that we should be careful to meet the needs of everyone in a single location rather than duplicating effort and information.

Ms. Specio-Boyer discussed that in the second recommendation the idea of sustainability is both financial and in relationships. Also important is to sustain groups strategically, i.e. to consider



both the local and the state-based groups. The other part of the recommendation is to promote relationships and collaborations across community groups. Ms. Hester suggested that one way to link between different communities is with the website discussed in recommendation 1. Ms. Ziegler discussed that one part of building the relationship between prevention, treatment and enforcement is to make sure that people know who they should contact as community coalitions and whom they can connect with to get funding and assistance as substance abuse groups with different needs. Mr. Minor stated that a goal might be to get substance abuse coalitions at the local level that could bring people together from different drug coalitions and therefore have a more sustained and strategic direction.

Ms. Ziegler mentioned that in Tucson there is a natural tie between anti-violence and substance abuse prevention groups and perhaps there could be more coalitions in general working together. There was discussion that by providing information on federal grants available to community coalitions they could work together to attain funding.

Pastor Tullgren noted a potential recommendation of a user-fee on alcohol that would generate money for coalition funding around the state. Ms. Specio-Boyer asked to table the issue of generating funding for coalitions for a later discussion, saying it would be preferable to truly establish the CAB as a resource for ASAP and the state first. The consensus of discussion was that currently information-gathering rather than revenue-generation is the major goal of the CAB.

Discussion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> recommendation commenced with a note that perhaps CAB could provide grant-reviewers that could assist local community members in reviewing their federal grant applications and determining if they are appropriate. Mr. Minor and Ms. Ziegler noted that existing examples of successful grants online can be very useful. Ms. Specio-Boyer pointed out that there are two different issues being discussed, the 1<sup>st</sup> is whether the CAB can provide technical assistance for community members that are writing grants, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> would be having information about grants online available. She pointed out that there are a number of community and local locations and events available for grant-writing and that the website for the CAB could link to it. Ms. Ziegler and Ms. Specio-Boyer discussed that websites are only useful if they are current. Ms. Cassandra Larsen said that keeping up a website is a large amount of work and that references to other websites might be a simpler solution. Ms. Hester agreed and suggested that a starting point would be for CAB members to do an inventory in their own counties about the websites and resources available.

Mr. Minor transitioned the conversation to the three potential policy areas that the CAB could do policy research on and provide briefs to ASAP: The first recommendation was keg registration and social hosting ordinance(s). Ms. Larsen inquired further about keg registration and Ms. Connie Leto replied that it is a way to label kegs and trace them to the purchaser in order to make someone responsible if the keg is used by underage drinkers. The costs consist of labeling fees and paperwork. Ms. Specio-Boyer asked if there was any information about the usefulness of keg registration and if there is data supporting keg registration and if it has served to reduce underage drinking in the area. According to anecdotal police officer accounts there has been a reduction in underage drinking. It was agreed that there should be further research and that the



policy recommendation should be made after research and assessment by the CAB. Ms. Tammany McDaniel said that the University of Minnesota has undertaken a study and that they have alcohol epidemiology information.

The second policy recommendation mentioned is reducing the shifting of prevention targets to increase long-term gains. Ms. Hester emphasized the need for research to be presented along with any recommendations to ASAP. Ms. Ziegler noted that if we have information on supporters and opponents of a proposed policy are we will be in a better position to get policy endorsed. Mr. Minor brought up a question of how many states run state liquor stores and how in most retail stores there are no protections from alcohol being stolen. Ms. Specio-Boyer requested that Ms. Hester looked into what other groups and sub-committees are doing regarding these issues.

Ms. Hester explained that many people feel that there are many campaigns, grants and groups related to a single drug (for example meth) and that it has been suggested that it might be better if coalitions could work on addressing substance abuse in general. Mr. Minor mentioned that the sustainability plan of their community is to get constant grants because there is not a lot of internal sustainability that is possible. Oftentimes the only financial resources are those grant sources and therefore there is a need to switch targets to follow the funding. Ms. Specio-Boyer and Mr. Minor discussed that oftentimes it is more difficult to maintain sustainability for rural communities compared to urban communities. Ms. Ziegler and Mr. Minor mentioned looking into how groups are able to maintain their existence over the long term without new funding.

Ms. Briana Kreibich mentioned the Methamphetamine Task Force recommendation that there be a cabinet level office and position for drug policy/substance abuse and that there could be more sharing between state agencies in such an office. There was discussion that federal grants often provide seed money and then there needs to be an evaluation of how effective the use of that money has been. It is important to confirm that successful important programs that work well should have evidence so that they can go back to funding agencies and request more funding. One part of the first recommendation could be that coalitions and local groups can document their efforts and information on how to prove effectiveness and impact on the website. Ms. Specio-Boyer pointed out that there should be both qualitative and quantitative evaluations of this kind of information.

Ms. Specio-Boyer noted that the group should prioritize making policy recommendations to ASAP, because ASAP is the actual policy making body. Ms. Hester made the point is that they need to select, research and focus on creating policy briefs so that these can be provided to ASAP to get their recommendation. The CAB's goal is to create one specific, well-researched policy recommendation to ASAP by the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Emerging Trends and Reporting Structure to ASAP**

Mr. Minor introduced the topic of emerging trends in the community and asked for discussion around the table. Ms. Claudia DalMolin said that arrest information in Gila County shows that prescription drug abuse has been a rising issue. Ms. McDaniel said that there was a death in



Globe from a prescription drug overdose and that there were also attempted suicides regarding prescription drug abuse. It was reported that in Kingman the biggest problem is prescription drug use by people who have not been prescribed the drugs. In Yuma County there has been a heroin increase, along with prescription drugs. Ms. Kathy Grimes from Graham County said that there is a lot of burglary of prescription drugs in her area. She stated that there has also been a large increase in suicides by hanging. Mr. Stevenson responded that this is information that the Epidemiology Work Group has seen as well and that there is much anecdotal information about youth prescription drug overdoses. He also stated that among gangs and tribes there has been increased distribution of prescription drugs. He said that there is also an increase in heroin anecdotally around the state, as seen in Emergency Room data and other sources. Mr. Stevenson also made the point that having the CAB to provide information about emerging issues around the state is important for his own work and the work of the Epidemiology Work Group and Emerging Issues Sub-Committee.

Ms. Hester asked whether there can be a way to report new trends from the CAB to these workgroups to assist in their data work. The group discussed that it is important that they discuss emerging updates and communicate information to the right people. Pastor Tullgren said that in Tucson anecdotally affluent schools are having a rise in drug use (including heroin) as compared to the less-affluent schools and that hopefully there is an interest among the haves and the have-nots in working together to reduce drug use. Ms. Specio-Boyer pointed out that addressing parents as well as teens is important and that the coalition model is useful to combine groups from different backgrounds. It was also pointed out that family-based prevention is also important and often neglected, and that the faith community can be a large resource to that end.

### **Criminal Justice Funding Possibilities**

Ms. Ziegler briefly discussed ACJC funding possibilities. She made the point that if ASAP can coordinate funding possibilities they might be more effective. ACJC recently received funds from the Byrne/JAG federal grant. Drug education and prevention projects were eligible for funding but received no grant applications. In the future better advertisement and discussion of grant possibilities can allow more community partners to hear about funding opportunities and apply for and receive funding. Due to federal grants there is funding for enforcement in narcotics task forces around the state, and Ms. Ziegler discussed the possibility of having task force commanders come to meetings to discuss possibilities for collaboration where there is funding. There are some programs around the state utilizing Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) funding which is governed by each county's attorney. Another funding stream mentioned was Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) funding through ACJC. Ms. Specio-Boyer noted that with recovery-oriented systems, there might be more opportunity for working with different partners and combining different parts of treatment so that it can become more consistent. Ms. Hester noted that there is a one-page sheet in member's packets on Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Mobile Enforcement Teams, and if anyone is interested in learning more or speaking with DEA about the possibility of having a MET team in their area, to let her know and she would put them in touch with ASAC Anthony Coulson at DEA.



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### **Future Meeting Dates and Upcoming Events**

The next meeting date will be in mid-August, as yet to be determined.

### **Call to Public**

Ms. Specio-Boyer made a call to the public and there was no response.

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Specio-Boyer adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.